

Message Text

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ACTION SNM-05

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FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0516
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 03 GENEVA 08620

DEPARTMENT PASS WHITE HOUSE FOR DOGOLOFF

DEPARTMENT PASS HEW/NIDA FOR BUCHER

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SNAR, UN, OVIP (DOGOLOFF)
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SUBJECT: DOGOLOFF TEAM VISIT TO GENEVA: CONVERSATION WITH
UNFDAC AND DND OFFICIALS

REF: STATE 115145

SUMMARY: DURING GENEVA VISIT, DOGOLOFF TEAM MET WITH
PRINCIPAL OFFICERS OF DIVISION OF NARCOTIC DRUGS AND UN

FUND FOR DRUG ABUSE CONTROL TO DISCUSS BROAD RANGE OF PROBLEMS IN INTERNATIONAL DRUG CONTROL, INCLUDING LACK OF KNOWLEDGE OF EXTENT OF PROBLEM, NEED FOR IMPROVED CO-ORDINATION AND NEED FOR INCREASED CONTRIBUTIONS TO UNFDAC. TENOR OF DISCUSSIONS WAS FRANK, FRIENDLY AND CONSTRUCTIVE. END SUMMARY.

1. DOGOLOFF TEAM, ACCOMPANIED BY MISSION OFFICER, PAID CALL ON DR. BROR REXED, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF UN FUND FOR DRUG ABUSE CONTROL IN MORNING OF MAY 29. THEREAFTER THEY WERE JOINED BY FOLLOWING UN OFFICIALS FOR TWO HOURS OF GENERAL DISCUSSION: DR. GEORGE LINK, DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF NARCOTIC DRUGS (DND); MR. NUDSET KANDEMIR, DEPUTY DIRECTOR (DND); MR. ALBERT MESERI, UNFDAC ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER; MR. HANS EMBLAD, UNFDAC ASSISTANT DIRECTOR.

2. DURING PRELIMINARY MEETING WITH DR. REXED, MR. DOGOLOFF STATED HIS VIEW BASED ON RECENT TRAVEL AND STUDY THAT MOST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES DO NOT KNOW THE EXTENT OF THEIR DOMESTIC DRUG ABUSE PROBLEM. HE PERCEIVED NEEDS FOR INCREASED COOPERATION AND INFORMATION EXCHANGE AT THE OPERATIONAL LEVEL, FOR AN EPIDEMIOLOGICAL STUDY OF THE NATURE AND EXTENT OF DRUG ABUSE IN EUROPE AND FOR STUDIES OF THE RESULTS OF TREATMENT METHODS CURRENTLY IN USE. REXED AGREED THAT EUROPEAN AWARENESS OF THE DRUG SITUATION WAS POOR AND THAT STATISTICS WERE GENERALLY INADEQUATE. HE ALSO AGREED ON NEED FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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UNFDAC AND STATED HIS PLAN TO ATTEND THE POMPIDOU MEETING IN EARLY JULY AND THEN VISIT THE FRG AND UK IN SEARCH OF CONTRIBUTIONS. HE EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT AT NEGATIVE ATTITUDE OF UK IN DRUG FIELD, CITING NON-RATIFICATION OF PSYCHOTROPIC CONVENTION, NEGATIVE OR SKEPTICAL UK REPRESENTATION AT WHO MEETINGS, AND LACK OF UNFDAC CONTRIBUTION IN RECENT YEARS. HE OBSERVED THAT ONLY RECENTLY HAS UK EXPRESSED INTEREST IN POSSIBILITY OF CONTRIBUTING DEVELOPMENT AID FUNDS TO UNFDAC. REXED ESTIMATED POSSIBILITIES OF FURTHER EUROPEAN CONTRIBUTIONS AS: FRANCE, POSSIBLE; ITALY, VERY WEAK, BUT SINCE HE WILL BE IN ROME THIS SUMMER, HE WILL TRY FOR A CONTRIBUTION, BELIEVING FUND COULD USE MORAL SUPPORT OF EVEN SMALL CONTRIBUTION; SWEDEN AND DENMARK, WILL REPEAT LAST YEAR'S CONTRIBUTION; NETHERLANDS, INDEFINITE. REXED OBSERVED THAT A WEAKNESS OF UNFDAC IN THE PAST HAD BEEN ITS PASSIVITY AND SHYNESS: IT WAITED FOR COUNTRIES TO COME FOR ITS ASSISTANCE, AND EVEN WHEN THEY DID, IT WAS SLOW TO EXECUTE WHATEVER AGREEMENT WAS CONCLUDED. HE ASSERTED THAT THE FUND MUST BE AGGRESSIVE AND DEVELOP PROJECTS WHICH DONORS CAN FINANCE. HE CITED THAILAND AS AN INSTANCE WHERE THE FUND MUST ACT CREATIVELY AND QUICKLY IF

IT IS TO BE OF ASSISTANCE. WITH RESPECT TO THE FUND'S
EXECUTING AGENCIES, REXED DESCRIBED WHO AS TERRIBLY SLOW.
HE SAID THE FUND WILL HAVE THREE ADVISERS LOOK OVER THE
TREATMENT WORK UNFDAC IS SUPPORTING IN ORDER TO EVALUATE
ACHIEVEMENTS AND IDENTIFY GAPS. HE SAID FUND SHOULD ALSO
REVIEW WORK OF UNESCO WHICH HE THOUGHT IS DOING GOOD
WORK IN DIFFICULT AREA. HE STATED THAT WHO AND UNESCO
ARE THE RIGHT ORGANIZATIONS FOR UNFDAC TO WORK WITH, BUT
THEIR PERFORMANCES SHOULD BE IMPROVED SO THAT DEMAND
REDUCTION EFFORTS RUN PARALLEL TO SUPPLY REDUCTION PRO-
JECTS.

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DEPT PASS WHITE HOUSE FOR DOGOLOFF

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3. AFTER OTHER OFFICIALS JOINED DOGOLOFF TEAM AND DR. REXED, MR. EMBLAD MADE SHORT PRESENTATION OF THE PITCH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FOR DEVELOPMENT AID FUNDS WHICH UNFDAC IS USING ON PROSPECTIVE DONORS, WHICH RUNS AS FOLLOWS: AFTER SEVEN YEARS OF EXPERIENCE, THE FUND HAS CONCLUDED THAT IT MUST EXERT MORE EFFORT AT THE SUPPLY END OF THE ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFIC TO ENCOURAGE THE ILLICIT GROWERS TO PRODUCE OTHER CROPS. THE FUND HAS POSITIVE RESULTS ACHIEVED IN THAILAND AND IN TURKEY TO SUPPORT THESIS THAT IT IS POSSIBLE TO CONVINCE FARMERS TO GROW OTHER CROPS. THIS REQUIRES THE AGREEMENT OF THE FARMERS AND THE IDENTIFICATION OF ALTERNATE CROPS. EMBLAD STRESSED POINT THAT FARMERS' AGREEMENT NEED NOT RELY SIMPLY ON THE GOODNESS OF THEIR SOULS, BECAUSE CHANGE OF CROPS OFFERS SOME ADVANTAGES TO THE FARMERS. HE NOTED THAT CONCEPT OF CROP SUBSTITUTION FREQUENTLY MEETS WITH SKEPTICISM, BECAUSE QUITE OBVIOUSLY NO SINGLE CROP CAN COMPETE WITH OPIUM. BUT THE FUND COUNTERS THIS SKEPTICISM ON THE BASIS OF ITS EXPERIENCE IN THAILAND AND PAKISTAN, POINTING OUT THE WHOLE COMPLEX OF ACTIVITIES THAT ARE INVOLVED IN ITS CROP SUBSTITUTION PROJECTS--ROADS, HEALTH CENTERS, BASIC EDUCATION, MARKETING PLANS. THE APPLICATION ON A WIDE SCALE OF THE KNOWLEDGE ACQUIRED THROUGH THE FUND'S PILOT PROJECTS IN FACT, HE STATED, INVOLVES INTEGRATED RURAL DEVELOPMENT. THEREFORE GOVERNMENTS WHO WISH TO CONTRIBUTE TO DEVELOPMENT SHOULD ACHIEVE THIS END AS WELL AS ACT TO ELIMINATE ILLICIT DRUGS BY CONTRIBUTING TO THE UNFDAC. EMBLAD NOTED THAT SOME DEVELOPMENT PEOPLE OBJECT THAT ANY BENEFIT TO THE DONOR IS IRRELEVANT IN THE USE OF DEVELOPMENT FUNDS. WHEN THEY DO, HE POINTS OUT THAT NARCOTICS GROWERS ARE AMONG THE POOREST OF THE POOR, ARE USUALLY NOT THE RECIPIENTS OF ANY OTHER AID, AND ARE THEREFORE APPROPRIATE RECIPIENTS OF DEVELOPMENT AID FUNDS. EMBLAD STATED THAT ONCE GOVERNMENTS ARE CONVINCED IN THEORY OF THE PROPRIETY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF CONTRIBUTING DEVELOPMENT AID FUNDS TO UNFDAC PROJECTS, THEY THEN WANT TO SEE PROJECT DESIGNS WHICH THEY CAN FINANCE. FUND IS THEREFORE PLACING EMPHASIS ON PROJECT

DEVELOPMENT.

4. DOGOLOFF SAID US RECOGNIZES NEED FOR REDUCTION BOTH OF SUPPLY AND DEMAND. THINKING IN TERMS OF WORLDWIDE DEMAND REDUCTION, HE STATED WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE PROGRESS IN DEMAND REDUCTION IN CONSUMING COUNTRIES. HE SAID UNDERSTANDING IN EUROPE OF EPIDEMOLOGY WAS PRIMITIVE AND THE TREATMENT RESPONSE TO ADDICTION NARROW AND RIGID. HE PERCEIVED THE NEED FOR OUTCOME EVALUATION AND FOR CLOSER COORDINATION BETWEEN EXPERTS ON SUPPLY AND DEMAND REDUCTION. HE SAID THE EUROPEANS RECOGNIZE THE NEED FOR INCREASED COMMUNICATION CONCERNING DEMAND REDUCTION, BUT NO COUNTRY WISHES TO HOST MEETING THIS SUBJECT. HE SUGGESTED THAT THE EUROPEAN REGIONAL OFFICE OF WHO MIGHT BACK ONE TO INCREASE SENSITIVITY OF EUROPEAN COUNTRIES TO DRUG PROBLEM. REXED STATED HIS APPROVAL OF EMPHASIS ON DEMAND REDUCTION BUT NOTED THIS WAS DIFFICULT WORKING AREA. HE SUGGESTED FUND MIGHT SUPPORT WHO REGIONAL OFFICE ACTIVITIES THIS AREA. HE NOTED THAT DND WAS DEVELOPING RESOURCE HANDBOOK IN DEMAND REDUCTION AND SUGGESTED THIS MIGHT BE GIVEN TO WHO REGIONAL OFFICES WITH SUGGESTION THEY SPONSOR MEETINGS TO PUBLICIZE ITS CONTENTS. DOGOLOFF COMMENTED THAT NO MATTER HOW GOOD A PUBLICATION MIGHT BE, THERE IS A NEED TO GET PEOPLE TO READ AND APPLY THEM; HE THOUGHT THAT MEETINGS CAN HELP ACHIEVE THIS END. DR. LING SUGGESTED THAT UNFDAC MIGHT PROVIDE FUNDS FOR WHO REGIONAL OFFICE IN COPENHAGEN TO HOLD DEMAND REDUCTION MEETING. DOGOLOFF SUGGESTED US/ UNFDAC AND DND PUT TOGETHER A PACKAGE PLAN FOR MEETING AND GIVE IT TO WHO TO IMPLEMENT. REXED THOUGHT WHO WOULD BE WILLING TO IMPLEMENT IF FUNDING WERE AVAILABLE. DR. LING SAID NEXT MEETING OF EXPERTS PREPARING THE DEMAND REDUCTION HANDBOOK WOULD TAKE PLACE IN JULY WITH THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DOCUMENT TO BE AVAILABLE IN NOVEMBER. REXED SAID THE HANDBOOK COULD BE APPROVED BY CND NEXT FEBRUARY AND THESE MEETINGS COULD BE HELD TO PUT THE BOOK INTO ACTION. HE

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DEPARTMENT PASS WHITE HOUSE FOR DOGOLOFF

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5. DR. LING RAISED PROBLEM OF OBSOLESCENCE OF INFORMATION PROVIDED TO THE UN ORGANIZATIONS, OBSERVING THAT REPORTING AT CND AND INCB WAS ONE YEAR OUT OF DATE. DOGOLOFF POINTED OUT THAT EVEN WITHIN US THERE WAS DIFFICULTY IN PULLING TOGETHER STRATEGIC INTELLIGENCE INFO UPON WHICH PLANNING OF OVERALL EFFORT COULD BE BASED. HE EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT THE ONLY WAY TO GET INFORMATION PROMPTLY IS BY HOLDING OUT THE PROSPECT THAT THE DONOR WILL GET BACK SOMETHING OF VALUE. REXED POINTED OUT WEAKNESSES IN COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE INCB AND DND SECRETARIATS, EXPRESSING THE OPINION THAT THEY SHOULD BE

AS ONE GROUP ACTING AND REPORTING PROMPTLY.

6. REFERRING TO THE POSSIBLE USE OF HEROIN FOR THE TERMINALLY ILL OR OF CANNABIS FOR GLAUCOMA OR NAUSEA, REXED URGED THAT USG BE CAREFUL IN PERMITTING USE OF DANGEROUS DRUGS WHERE OTHER SUBSTANCES WITHOUT THEIR COMPLICATIONS MIGHT BE USED. HE SAID THERE WAS NO PROSPECT OF CND APPROVING MEDICAL USE OF HEROIN OR CANNABIS AND THEREFORE THERE WAS NO BENEFIT TO FINDING A WEAK ARGUMENT SUPPORTING THEIR THERAPEUTIC USE. HE APPREHENDED A BAD POLITICAL EFFECT FROM RESEARCH ON HEROIN. DOGOLOFF REPLIED THAT THE BASIC STANCE OF THE USG WAS THAT PUBLIC POLICY SHOULD FLOW FROM WHAT WE KNOW, NOT WHAT WE FEEL. HE SAID THAT US WAS TRYING TO GET AWAY FROM CONCEIVING DRUGS AS PROBLEMS IN FAVOR OF THE VIEW THAT PEOPLES CONDUCT WAS THE PROBLEM, FOR EXAMPLE, BY LOOKING AT MEDICAL PRESCRIBING PRACTICES. HE DESCRIBED DRUG PROBLEM AS MUCH BROADER THAN HEROIN IN THE INNER CITY. IN ATTACKING THE WIDER PROBLEM, HE STATED, ONE MUST NOT EXCLUDE A "RE-LOOK: AT THE DRUGS THEMSELVES, IN ORDER TO FIT THEM IN WITH A GREATER HUMANIZATION OF MEDICAL CARE.

7. COMMENT: THE ABOVE PRESENTS THE GIST OF ONLY ONE MEETING DURING DOGOLOFF TWO DAY VISIT TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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GENEVA, THE OTHERS BEING BRIEFED BY TEAM MEMBERS. MISSION BELIEVES DOGOLOFF TEAM VISIT WAS USEFUL IN CONFIRMING TOP LEVEL US INTEREST IN INTERNATIONAL DRUG CONTROL AND IN UN ORGANIZATIONS RELATED THERETO. IT ENABLED US REPS TO EMPHASIZE US CONCERNS RE ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THOSE ORGANIZATIONS AS WELL AS DIRECTIONS US WOULD LIKE THEM TO TAKE. DISCUSSIONS WERE FRANK, FRIENDLY AND THOUGHT PROVOKING; WE EXPECT THAT IDEAS PLANTED DURING THE VISIT WILL IN TIME PROVE FRUITFUL. END COMMENT. VANDEN HEUVEL

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